

**Wildlife Committee Meeting
May 12, 2017
Ken Lake State Park, KY**

AGENDA

**Committee Members: Chairman Barry Stotts, Rusty Gailor, Paul Horn,
Rich Storm**

- I. Discussion Item: Public Lands Reclassification**
- II. Discussion Item: Modification of 301 KAR 2:195. Falconry, raptor take, and propagation.**
- III. Discussion Item: Modification of 301 KAR 2:030. Commercial Guide License**

- I. Discussion Item:** The Wildlife Division proposes to create and implement a 3-tiered classification system for the various Wildlife Management Areas (WMA). The classification system would correspond to levels of management effort to be expected from the general public.

Justification: Currently, we have a variety of levels of management on existing WMAs from staffed areas with high intensity management, to areas where we basically maintain boundary and signage. All areas have value for public hunting, wildlife habitat and wildlife based outdoor recreation. However, there is a need to manage public expectations and to assist the agency for planning purposes by prioritizing limited management funds.

- II. Discussion Item: Modification of 301 KAR 2:195. Falconry, raptor take, and propagation.**

-Define Falconry and use of Falconry birds for regulation purposes

Justification: Currently we do not define falconry in our regulations. Falconry birds are not intended to be used for purposes other than hunting wild game.

-Standardize the requirements and administration of the apprentice falconer exam.

Justification: Apprentice falconer exams are administered by conservation officers and headquarters staff. Currently we do not have a standardized method for administering this exam.

-Standardize the requirements needed for a general or master class upgrade.

Justification: We need to standardize the information that is submitted to the department, so the department can accurately determine if the apprentice or general has in fact fulfilled the requirements needed to upgrade.

-Require master class falconers to actively practice falconry

Justification: Master class falconers have the most privileges with our current regulations. This regulation change would require falconers, who wish to practice at the master level, to remain active in order to remain in this class. Master falconers who do not remain active will be reinstated at the general class level, and will be required to actively practice at that level for 2 years before being reinstated to a master class.

-Specify what is required of an apprentice sponsor

Justification: New regulations would add language explaining what is required from an apprentice sponsor.

III. Discussion Item: Modification of 301 KAR 2:030. Commercial Guide License. The Elk Working Group requested the Commission consider requiring elk guides to report elk wounded by clients

Justification: Additional information is needed on wounding loss of elk.